

Latest Developments (in addition to our talk of 23 July)

Date: July 24, 1969.

1. Ivan Dzyuba is at present preparing a reply to his critics and attackers in which there will also be an answer to John Weir's article published in News From Ukraine of May 1969. Weir's article, entitled Vyhadky i Diysnist addressed to the editor of the Economist in London, is generally known in dissident circles in Kiev and Lviv.
2. Vyacheslav Chornovil signed the petition of the 54 to the United Nations because it also dealt with Ukrainian affairs. Russian dissident circles promised Chornovil to write a document on the Ukraine in the form of a petition or letter to be signed by Russians. To discuss this matter in detail, Chornovil will go to Moscow sometime in the fall of this year. Chornovil met with Grigorenko before the latter's arrest. Grigorenko told Chornovil that he is a Ukrainian or at least of Ukrainian descent and considered as his main task the fight against oppression of national minorities. He stated that even "if he were a Jew, he would do the same".
3. After the official celebrations of the Shevchenko anniversary on May 22 in Kiev, there took place an unofficial ceremony organized by students who recited poems and sang Ukrainian songs. The group was photographed by the KGB and after several days, the KGB officials approached professors and lecturers with a request to fail the identified students in their examinations and thus get rid of them from the university.

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4. In Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast in the spring of 1969, people began on their own initiative to restore icons and to save and conserve some other religious items in churches. Some of these people were arrested and their investigation continues.

5. Ihor Kalynets, his wife, and others in Lviv have collected and continue to collect money to save icons and other art objects which have been stored in the Virmensky Sobor in Lviv. They did this under the pretext of organizing an exhibition and have already printed a catalogue. They have constituted themselves into some sort of art committee.